

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

FAO/WHO COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR ASIA

Twenty-third Session

PROPOSED WORK PLAN FOR 2026-2027

(Prepared by the Coordinator)

1. The purpose of this document is to provide a basis for discussion in drafting a workplan for 2026-2027 to support the implementation of the Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031. The proposed workplan identifies the key activities to be undertaken under the identified priority goals and outcomes, promoting time and cost-effective working mechanisms. The proposed workplan reflects the findings from the online 2023-2025 survey of Members, as well as insights gained from the implementation of the Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025. Based on these inputs, the proposed work plan has been developed with a clear focus, highlighting priority areas and practical activities.
2. CCASIA23 is invited to consider the proposed workplan in the annex, if appropriate.

ANNEX

THE PROPOSED WORK PLAN FOR 2026-2027 TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CODEX STRATEGIC PLAN 2026-2031

Priority goal	Priority Outcome	Proposed key activities for the period 2026-2027	Rationale for proposed activities	Responsible party and collaborators	Expected output by 2027	Reporting mechanism
1. Respond to Members' needs for protecting the health of consumers and ensuring fair practices in the food trade in an evolving global landscape by developing science-based standards and related texts	1.1 Foresight and horizon-scanning activities are used to support the identification of issues likely to impact food safety, quality and trade.	-	-	-	-	-
	1.2 Scientific advice that addresses the needs identified by CAC and subsidiary bodies is primarily provided by FAO and WHO and their joint scientific advisory bodies, informed by globally representative data and appropriate international expertise and methodology.	1.2.1 Support and participate in activities aimed at enhancing and facilitating the work of the FAO/WHO Scientific Advice Programme 1.2.2 Facilitate and encourage submission of data by all Members in the region	The activity is expected to contribute to sustaining and strengthening the scientific basis of Codex standards.	Members, FAO and WHO, Regional coordinator	Members have provided scientific data, experts, funding or other support in response to the needs of Codex scientific advisory bodies	Report at CCASIA24
	1.3 Scientific advice is used by CAC and subsidiary bodies in line with Codex risk analysis principles.	-	-	-	-	-
	1.4 Codex standards and related texts are developed, reviewed and adopted in a timely, transparent and inclusive manner.	1.4.1 Communicate the current and emerging issues based on discussions at CCASIA23	The activity is expected to contribute to the timely development/review of standards relevant to the needs of Members.	Members, Regional Coordinator	Members have communicated their needs and emerging issues, e.g. in informal regional meetings prior to the session of the Commission and the Committees	Report at CCASIA24
2. Enhance Codex work management systems and practices that support the effective and efficient development of	2.1 Work management systems and practices are refined and enhanced, leveraging digital and other new technologies.	-	-	-	-	-
	2.2 Mechanisms to prioritize proposals to develop new or revise existing standards and related texts are in place.	-	-	-	-	-

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standards and related texts	2.3 Chairpersons, coordinators, host secretariats, Codex Contact Points (CCPs) and delegates are supported in their respective roles and their capabilities are developed and enhanced.	2.3.1 Encourage to undertake the Codex e-learning course 2.3.2. Continue to support needs-based capacity building activities (trainings, webinars, study visits and virtual coordination sessions) 2.3.3. Continue to encourage participation in Working Groups (WGs) and responses to Circular Letter	The activities are expected to increase Members knowledge and confidence in articulating positions and stimulate greater participation in Codex work	Members, Regional Coordinator, FAO and WHO, Codex Secretariat	Increased or sustained participation in CAC and its subsidiary bodies, WGs and responses to Circular Letters from across the region (all activities) Enhanced capacity building and activities from member countries in participation of Codex work.	Report at CCASIA24
	2.4 Codex Members are enabled to participate actively and sustainably throughout the standard-setting process.					
3. Strengthen relationships with relevant international organizations, promoting a coordinated approach to address global challenges	3.1 The mutual understanding of the roles of CAC and relevant international organizations in relation to global challenges is improved and is supported by ongoing consultation between the parties.	3.1.1 Encourage international organizations within the region to share information on their activities with Members in the region	This activity is expected to stimulate greater engagement among Observers active in the region regarding Codex work and provide an opportunity for Members to engage Observers active in the region on matters relating to global challenges addressed by Observers	Observers, Codex Secretariat	Increased engagement between Codex and its membership with Observers active in the region on global challenges	Report at CCASIA24
	3.2 Gaps in approaches to addressing global challenges that Codex could contribute to are identified through targeted engagement with relevant international organizations.	-	-	-	-	-

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	3.3 The contribution of CAC to the transition towards sustainable and resilient food systems, is identified and considered.	-	-	-	-	-
	3.4 Contributions from relevant international organizations throughout the development of Codex texts are encouraged.	-	-	-	-	-
4. Maximize the impact of Codex by increasing the visibility and use of standards	4.1 The profile and recognition of Codex as the international food standards setting body for protecting consumer health and ensuring fair practices in food trade is enhanced.	4.1.1. Continue advocacy work with national decision makers to stress the benefits of using Codex texts to ensure food safety, protect consumer health and enhance trade 4.1.2 Respond to the 2026 and 2027 surveys by the Codex Secretariat on the use and impact of Codex texts 4.1.3 Targeted awareness-raising campaigns in regions where knowledge gaps are identified, to improve understanding and application of Codex texts	The activities are expected to raise the level of awareness of the use of Codex standards in national legislations and trade situations, and increase knowledge about priority standards and knowledge gaps for the region	Members, Regional Coordinator	Increased recognition of the use of Codex Alimentarius standards and priorities for the region Increased response rate by Members of the region to the survey on the use and impact of Codex texts Increased awareness of knowledge gaps in the region and the role Codex texts could play in addressing the gap	Report at CCASIA24
	4.2 The use of Codex texts in the context of integrative approaches such as One Health is promoted.	-	-	-	-	-

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	4.3 Harmonization through the increased use of Codex texts in establishing national food control systems and regulations is advocated for.	4.3.1. Organize seminars related to Codex which allow stakeholders from different sectors to participate to promote use of Codex standards 4.3.2 Share experience with use of Codex standards, especially in trade situations, in line with Regional Communications Work Plan	The activities are expected to raise the level of awareness of the use of Codex standards in national legislations and trade situations, and increase knowledge about priority standards for the region	Members, Regional Coordinator	Increased harmonization of regulations in the region	Report at CCASIA24